

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 040605
ORIGIN NEA-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY RABAT

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KING HASSAN II), MO

SUBJECT: REPORT THAT KING HASSAN HOPES TO RESCHEDULE
VISIT TO U.S. IN APRIL 1978

REF: STATE 36820

1. DURING RECENT CONVERSATION WITH AFN, ROCKWELL INTERNATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT ALBERT GRASSELLI REPORTED ON RECENT TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH OTHMAN BENGELLOUN, WHO WAS EXPECTING TO MAKE BUSINESS TRIP TO U.S. SHORTLY. BENGELLOUN HAD SAID THAT KING HASSAN WAS NOW HOPING TO VISIT U.S. IN APRIL.

2. AS POST IS AWARE, BENGELLOUN IS PROMINENT MOROCCAN BUSINESSMAN WHO HAS HAD AND PRESUMABLY STILL HAS CLOSE CONNECTIONS WITH ROYAL FAMILY. IT IS ALSO WORTH NOTING THAT BENGELLOUN TRAVELLED TO U.S. IN NOVEMBER 1977 WITH
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SMALL OFFICIAL ADVANCE PARTY FOR KING'S VISIT, ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN PREPARATORY MEETINGS WITH DEPARTMENT.

3. READ TOGETHER WITH REFTEL MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT, THIS REPORT COULD BE INDICATIVE OF KING'S CURRENT PREFERENCES. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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